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10 July 1962

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CENTRAL

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BULLETIN



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Laos - South Vietnam: South Vietnam's delegation at the Geneva Conference on Laos has explained that it is boycotting the conference because Communist guerrillas are increasingly using Laotian territory to infiltrate South Vietnam and because Vientiane has decided to establish diplomatic relations with North Vietnam. On 7 July Presidential Secretary Thuan told Ambassador Nolting in Saigon that South Vietnam's delegation would not for the present participate in the conference, but that its foreign minister would remain in Geneva. He said that the government has not yet decided its ultimate policy toward the conference.

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South Vietnam has threatened not to subscribe to the conference agreements unless there are provisions for the withdrawal of North Vietnamese forces from Laos and Vientiane agrees not to recognize North Vietnam. Its final position probably will be influenced by the level of diplomatic exchange agreed upon between Vientiane and Hanoi and by the attitude of the Thais, who also have reservations about signing a Geneva settlement

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Soviet Bloc - CEMA: The second CEMA meeting within a month is about to begin, according to Reuters, which quotes a TASS report that the vice ministers of Bulgaria, Hungary, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Rumania arrived in Moscow on 9 July for a meeting of the newly created CEMA Executive Committee. The purpose of the meeting has not been announced. A Bulgarian broadcast states that an official economic delegation headed by Stanko Todorov, president of the State Planning Commission, left for Moscow the same day to coordinate Bulgaria's long-range plan through 1980.

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a CEMA meeting was to be convened in early July because of the serious economic situation in the bloc, especially in agriculture. The participants are lower level officials than those who attended the 6-7 June Moscow CEMA Council meeting, and their positions suggest that they will be concerned with implementation of broad economic directives recently agreed upon in Moscow.

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USSR-Austria: During the recent visit of Austrian leaders to the Soviet Union, Khrushchev and other Soviet officials expressed strong opposition to full Austrian membership in the European Economic Community (EEC), according to an Austrian Foreign Office official. Soviet leaders indicated, however, that they would not necessarily oppose some special Austrian relationship with the EEC designed to protect Austria's important trade with EEC countries. By not specifying what kind of relationship they had in mind, they maintained their freedom to attack whatever arrangements Austria may negotiate with the EEC.

In a four-hour talk with Chancellor Gorbach, Khrushchev reiterated earlier public attacks on the Common Market but avoided any direct reference to an Austrian tie with the EEC. The Austrians have described the results of the visit as "much better than expected" and believe they have at least tacit Soviet approval for proceeding with negotiations with the Common Market.

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Western Europe: During their meeting in Paris last week, Adenauer persuaded De Gaulle to encourage new efforts to reach agreement on a European political union treaty prior to Britain's entry into the Common Market (EEC). At Adenauer's urging, De Gaulle agreed to ask Italian Premier Fanfani to invite the EEC heads of government to a meeting in Rome, probably at the end of September

In the meantime, Adenauer has invited Belgian Foreign Minister Spaak to Bonn, apparently in hopes of persuading him to agree to negotiate the text of the treaty before the Rome meeting. London would be kept informed of these negotiations. Spaak told Ambassador MacArthur on 7 July that he did not think a useful top-level meeting of the Six could take place before September. He added that he doubted real progress could be made on European political integration before the Commonwealth conference scheduled for 10 September.

Adenauer and De Gaulle both hope for a successful outcome of the UK-EEC accession talks in Brussels, but feel that "much time" will be needed to resolve the complicated questions involved. The French Foreign Ministry estimates that Britain's entry into the EEC, EURATOM, and Coal-Steel Community will probably not be fully accomplished before the end of 1963.

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*Brazil: Francisco Brochado da Rocha was confirmed as Prime Minister by a vote of 215 to 58 in the Chamber of Deputies early today. As of 0400 this morning, no breakdown of the vote by party alignments was available. However, the US Embassy had noted indications yesterday that Brochado da Rocha would be approved "without much argument or enthusiasm," the larger parties apparently going along with the appointment primarily in order to end the crisis.

In a speech to the Chamber yesterday evening, Brochado da Rocha reportedly urged that a plebiscite be held on whether Brazil should change back from the parliamentary system to a presidential system of government. He spoke in defense of Brazil's recent foreign policy, and proposed a number of measures, including agrarian reform, banking reform, granting the vote to illiterates, and controls over foreign investment and the repatriation of profits.

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